

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING GRANBY MAYOR DICK THOMPSON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today on behalf of Congress to pay tribute to a brave man, and a man who gave of himself to improve the lives of others. Mr. Speaker, the people of Colorado and of our nation lost an amazing man with the passing away of Granby Mayor Dick Thompson, but his heroic efforts will never be lost, because his actions and his character have helped shape his city and country in a positive way that can never be revoked.

In 1949, Dick married his wife Thelma, and eventually became a fantastic father to five children, Larry, Ron, Brenda, Gary, and Linda. A fine businessman, Dick started Thompson Excavating, and later, when his sons decided to join him in his successful business, changed it to Thompson and Sons Excavating.

Dick Thompson believed in self-reliance, freedom, and trust, and he took action to see these values implemented in his community, nation, and family. Dick learned firsthand the meaning of sacrifice at age 18 when he served in the South Pacific during World War II on the U.S.S. *Hazard*. He never forgot how to serve for the sake of the many, as he gave over 20 years on the town board without a single regret. Eventually, Dick took his political leadership skills to another level when he was elected Mayor in April of 2000. He won the community over with his common sense and his obvious interest for the well being of others. Middle Park Fair and Rodeo, who honored him as Pioneer of the Year, quotes him as saying, "We've always had a lot of good people in this country." * * * That's why I like to stay involved. I like the people." His positive energy shone through, and helped contribute to his success and to the success of Granby.

It is without a doubt, Mr. Speaker, that Dick Thompson has earned our utmost respect and thanks for his exemplary service and honesty. Today, I ask you to join me in honoring one of Colorado's finest leaders.

IN HONOR OF THE CONSECRATION OF THE MONASTERY MARCHA CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Consecration of The Monastery Marcha Church for the esteemed dedication by the abess, Igumanija Ana and two sisters, Sisters Anastasia and Angelina, for their remarkable service to God and the Holy Orthodox Church.

Monastery Marcha in Richfield, Ohio is erected in remembrance of the original Monastery Marcha in Serbia, built in the 17th Century, which was destroyed during the war with Austria-Hungary. Even though it was rebuilt in 1924, it was destroyed once again in 1991. However, due to the devotion of the congregants, the Monastery Marcha in Richfield became what it is today, the first monastery established for the Serbian Orthodox nuns in the United States.

The Monastery is presently located on a beautiful 82 acre tract of land, which was purchased in 1968 for the sole purpose of building a Diocesan center. The spiritual and uplifting environmental atmosphere invites all those lost souls in need of spiritual enrichment, prayer, service, moral support, and love. The Monastery graciously houses a residence and living accommodations for monastics, a heavenly Chapel, and future plans hope to include a vast area for a cemetery and a residence for senior citizens.

Each week the Holy Services are conducted by an area Orthodox priest who graciously volunteers his priestly duties to the Monastery. The nuns derive income through the generous donations but find that the main source stems from producing vestments, making candles and selling religious articles. The nuns have hospitably provided many spiritual retreats at the Monastery and have become speakers and program presenters throughout Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York.

The nuns have taken an active part in service to the Monastery and it is well known that the doors of the Monastery are always open for all to enter.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the Monastery Marcha Church for their many contributions to the diocese and wider religious community.

GAINING EARLY AWARENESS AND READINESS FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS (GEAR UP)

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, the President's request for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is \$277 million for fiscal year 2002. Funding at this level puts the GEAR UP program in my district and many others at serious risk. We should do everything in our power to protect and augment programs like GEAR UP that have proven to be effective.

As you know, GEAR UP is a nationwide program to encourage disadvantaged children to have high expectations, stay in school, study hard and make appropriate decisions that will lead them on the road to a college education. With high school dropout rates so high among Hispanics, programs like GEAR

UP are critical. The program directs the Department of Education to offer competitive grants that will build partnerships while creating and expanding alliances between colleges and school districts which have at least 50 percent low-income students.

Since its enactment, GEAR UP has provided a much needed service to nearly 1.2 million children. No other federal program holds more promise for middle school children in low-income schools and does more to institutionalize the necessary reforms that provide early college awareness than GEAR UP. The 73 new partnership grants and seven new state grants awarded last year brought the two-year total to 237 GEAR UP partnerships and 28 state programs. The second year competition, like that of the first year, was extremely competitive. However, due to funding limitations, only 28 percent of the partnership applications and 33 percent of the state grant applications could be awarded. There is truly a demand for more GEAR UP money.

I believe it is critically important that we remain steadfast in our commitment to GEAR UP, which sends a message to students that a college education is indeed within their reach. I urge my colleagues to support \$425 million for GEAR UP in the fiscal year 2002 Labor, HHS and Education Appropriations bill to allow GEAR UP schools to continue to operate their programs.

HONORING TEEN OUTREACH THROUGH TECHNOLOGY (TOTT)

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Teen Outreach Through Technology (TOTT) for their exemplary service to their community. TOTT is a non-profit organization with an emphasis on youth delinquency prevention.

In 1986, Faye Johnson undertook an independent study at Fresno City College to explore the use of telecommunications with at-risk or troubled teens. Her study showed very positive results and shortly thereafter, a formal program was put in operation, volunteers were recruited, and TOTT became a non-profit organization. TOTT's purpose is to reduce juvenile delinquency by redirecting negative energy into a positive outcome through computer technology. Through the use of a computer network, newsletter and trained volunteer programs, youth are involved in the process of educating the public to their needs, exploring solutions to their problems, and improving their understanding of themselves and others.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Teen Outreach Through Technology for their innovative use of technology to serve young people in the Fresno area. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing TOTT many more years of continued success.

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